

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6360

BILL NUMBER: HB 1517

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 8, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Electronic Copies of Legislation.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. VanDenburgh

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☐ **DEDICATED**
☐ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate to establish procedures for the distribution of legislative documents to members of the House of Representatives and Senate in an electronic format instead of paper copies, including, at a minimum, bills, resolutions, joint resolutions, committee reports, second and third reading motions, and conference committee reports. It provides that the procedures established by the Clerk and Secretary do not apply: (1) to the extent that they conflict with the House or Senate rules; (2) as necessary to provide a sufficient number of paper copies for various filings and signatures; and (3) as necessary to provide a sufficient number of paper copies for distribution to the public.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary* - State expenditures for the House of Representatives, Senate, and Legislative Services Agency could be reduced as a result of potential savings in paper and printing costs. Any potential savings is indeterminable at this time, and will depend upon the procedures for the distribution of legislative documents in an electronic format established by the principal Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate. The biennium budget appropriated \$939,400 in FY 2010 and \$975,000 in FY 2011 to the Legislative Services Agency for printing and distribution costs.

Background Information - Several state legislatures have been working to reduce paper waste by incorporating the use of electronic formats of bills, including Montana, Ohio, Florida, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Nevada, and Hawaii. In Hawaii, the Senate conducted a "paperless initiative" during the 2008 regular session by replacing many legislative documents with electronic copies and encouraging the

use of laptop computers by Senate members. At the end of the 2008 session, it was estimated that paper usage was reduced by about 60% compared to the previous regular session.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Legislative Services Agency; General Assembly.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Garry Boulard, “Going Paperless,” *State Legislatures Magazine*, March, 2007; Hawaii State Legislature website, <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/>.

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